

HOW THE PARENT CAN HELP

For the young child, take time to read to your son/daughter. Your child's teacher can suggest appropriate books. Take time to discuss events and places (s)he is encountering. Mild Intellectual Disabled students often require extra time and review in order to be successful.

Frequent contact with school staff about concerns you may have or about changes you may notice in your child's health or behaviour is important. Visit your son/daughter's teacher(s). Discuss the program and learn how you can give additional support at home. Where both school and parent/guardian are working toward the same goals, success is enhanced.

RESOURCES

Community Living – Upper Ottawa Valley

894 Pembroke Street West, Box 1030,
Pembroke, ON K8A 5P8

www.communitylivingupperottawavalley.ca

Telephone: (613) 735-0659

Fax: (613) 735-1373

Madawaska Valley Association for Community Living

19491 Opeongo Line E, Box 1178, Barry's Bay,
ON K0J 1B0

Telephone: (613) 756-3817

Fax: (613) 756-0616

Community Living Renfrew County South

In Arnprior: 68 Daniel Street North, Arnprior, ON
K7S 2K5

Telephone: (613) 623-4955

Fax: (613) 623-6176

In Renfrew: 326 Raglan Street South, Renfrew,
ON K7V 1R5

Telephone: (613) 432-6763

Fax: (613) 432-9465

Renfrew County Developmental Services

c/o Family & Children's Services

464 Isabella Street,

Pembroke, ON K8A 5T9

Contact: Manager, Developmental Services

Telephone: (613) 735-6866 or

1-800-267-5878

Fax: (613) 735-3067

Champlain Community Care Access Centre

1100 Pembroke Street East,

Pembroke, ON K8A 6Y7

Telephone: (613) 732-7007 or

1-888-421-2222

Fax: (613) 732-2051

Renfrew County District School Board

Special Education Department

Mary Street Education Centre

480 Mary Street, Pembroke, ON K8A 5W9

T: 613-735-0151 or 1-800-267-1098 x3300

Web: www.renfrew.edu.on.ca/speced/RCDSB_SpEd_Home.htm

Email: speced@renfrew.edu.on.ca

March 2008



RENFREW COUNTY
DISTRICT SCHOOL
BOARD

Special Education Department

INFORMATION BROCHURE

MILD INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY

*When used in this document, the word
"parent" includes guardian.*

The Renfrew County District School Board provides Special Education programs and services in accordance with the Education Act and Regulations.

DEFINITION

A student identified as being Mild Intellectual Disabled is usually delayed by two or more years in academic, social, language and cognitive areas when compared to students of the same age. While their development is slower than students of the same age, they are able to learn academic skills, to work and to live independently upon completion of school.

The Ministry of Education defines the exceptionality as:

Mild Intellectual Disability

A learning disorder characterized by:

- a) an ability to profit educationally within a regular class with the aid of considerable curriculum modification and supportive service;*
- b) an inability to profit educationally within a regular class because of slow intellectual development;*
- c) a potential for academic learning, independent social adjustment, and economic self-support.*

SPECIAL NEEDS

All students need to experience success and to be recognized for their efforts and progress. It is important for the school and the parent/guardian to bring to the students' attention examples where the student has improved and to focus their attention on that improvement.

PROGRAMS

A variety of placements are provided, depending on the needs of the student. In elementary school, students provided with modifications to the daily work and with support from a special education teacher may be able to cope with a regular school program. Other students, whose problems are more severe, may require placement in a special class setting for part or all of the day. There are a number of Mild Intellectual Disabled Classes in the county.

At the secondary school level, most students are part of the grade 9 program. Special Education support is provided for these students within the regular class or in small group settings for part of the school day. At the Grade 10 level, most students with Mild Intellectual Disabilities can be demitted from a special education program where the courses at the Basic Level of difficulty meet their needs. Where students continue to need support, special education assistance is provided. This program operates to a

Grade 12 level and students can obtain an Ontario Secondary School Diploma.

The program for Mild Intellectual Disabled students focuses on modifying the regular class instruction to allow the student to experience success. The quantity and difficulty of the work, the manner in which the material is presented and the way the student is evaluated are possible types of modification. At the secondary level community job placements are available through the co-operative education program.

HOW A STUDENT IS IDENTIFIED

If your child is experiencing difficulty at school, you should contact the principal of your school. If the school staff feels that your child has special needs, you will be contacted.

Once a child is referred, the school staff will assess the child's abilities and learning needs. This information will be used for a recommendation for special education assistance and/or further testing by the Board Psycho-Educational Resource Staff.

For more information regarding the identification, placement and review process and the rights of parents, please ask your school principal for a copy of the parent guide "Parents As Partners."